

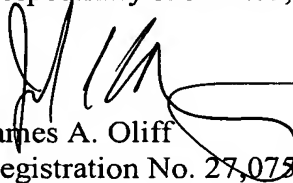
**REMARKS**

Claims 13 and 16-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 23 is canceled. No new matter is added.

Applicants filed a Notice of Appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on May 20, 2008. By this Amendment, claim 23 is canceled, thereby reducing the number of issues for appeal and placing the application in better form for appeal. An Appeal Brief is being filed concurrently herewith. Accordingly, entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: November 13, 2008

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